

REMARKS

1. An Office Action requiring Applicant to elect a single invention for prosecution on the merits was mailed August 31, 2009. Claims 1-22 and 39-52 were last presented for examination. By the foregoing Amendments, claims 2 and 4 have been amended, claims 39-52 have been cancelled and no claims have been added. Claims 13, 16 and 17 have been withdrawn. Thus, upon entry of this paper, claims 1-22 will remain pending in this application. Of these twenty-two (22) claims, one (1) claim (claims 1) is independent. In response to the Election/Restriction Requirement, Applicant submits this Response.

Election/Restriction

2. The Examiner has required the election of a single invention for prosecution on the merits. The Examiner alleged that the originally filed claims are directed to the following two (2) inventions.

Group I. Claims 1-22, drawn to a first product.

Group II. Claims 39-52, drawn to a first method.

Election of Species

3. The Examiner has required the election of a single species for prosecution on the merits. The Examiner alleged that the originally filed claims are directed to the following two (2) patentably distinct species:

Species (i): Claims 7, 10-12 and 44-49.

Species (ii): Claims 13, 16, 17 and 51.

Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 14, 15, 18-22, 39-43, 50 and 52 are generic.

Election

4. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.143 and MPEP 818.03(b), Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, the claims of Group I, namely, claims 1-22, and Species (i), namely, claims 7 and 10-12.

5. Applicant does not intend to dedicate non-elected claims to the public and reserve the right to file divisional applications for the subject matter covered by the non-elected claims.
6. The inventorship for the invention of the elected claims is the same as the inventorship of record in this application.

Conclusion

7. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for examination and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Dated: September 30, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

/Michael G. Verga/

Michael G. Verga

Registration No.: 39,410

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

1875 Eye Street, NW

Suite 1100

Washington, DC 20006

(202) 331-7111

(202) 293-6229 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicant